



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Unigen's Anivestin™ and AmLexin® for Joint Health of Companion Animals

Director of Pre-Clinical Development, Dr. Mesfin Yimam, DVM, MS, presented Unigen's premier animal joint care ingredients, Anivestin™ and AmLexin® at the VMX Veterinary Meeting & Expo held January 18th – 22nd, Orlando, Florida. Over 700 exhibitors and 17,000+ attendees from the animal care industry gathered at the five-day conference. Dr. Yimam presented "*Botanical Alternatives for Reducing Inflammation and Protecting Cartilage in Cats and Dogs*" during the January 21st breakfast session hosted by VetriScience Laboratories. The presentation highlighted the efficacy and safety of Unigen's patented animal joint care ingredients, Anivestin™ and AmLexin®, clinically proven to reduce symptoms of inflammation - discomfort, stiffness and to protect joint cartilage degradation as experienced with osteoarthritis.

Supported by nearly 10 years of pre-clinical and clinical studies, Anivestin™ is a patented botanical composition of Free B Ring Flavonoids and Flavans for use in joint support. The proprietary ingredient is a blend of standardized bioflavonoid extracts from 2 traditional plants: root of *Scutellaria baicalensis* and heartwood of *Acacia catechu*. Anivestin™ is clinically proven to significantly reduce joint stiffness in 3 days, reduce discomfort in 5 days and improve physical joint function in 7 days for patients with osteoarthritis.

AmLexin® is a patented botanical composition that contains a standardized blend of bioflavonoids from the heartwood of *Acacia catechu* and the root bark of *Morus alba*. AmLexin™ is a potent anti-oxidant that specifically neutralizes super oxide anion – a free radical generated by normal wear and tear. AmLexin™ effectively down regulates catabolic pathways such as IL-1, IL-6, protecting the articular structural integrity of animals in a preclinical model. AmLexin® significantly reduced a cartilage degradation biomarker -uCTX II levels at 12 weeks, reflecting reduction in cartilage degradation and joint cartilage protection <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30691120>. In a double-blind placebo-controlled human clinical trial over 9 weeks, use of AmLexin® resulted in faster recovery from delayed onset muscle soreness within 1–6 days post-exercise. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30661328>.

"Dr. Yimam's presentation at the VMX conference is reflective of Unigen's solid commitment to providing scientifically researched, clinically proven, efficacious and safe ingredients for the companion animal health care market" commented by President & CEO Regan Miles who also attended the presentation at VMX tradeshow. "We are excited to collaborate with VetriScience Laboratories to bring the first canine formula called AmileXtin™ to companion animal joint care market".



Dr. Yimam joined Unigen in December 2004, with extensive experience in pharmaceutical research, molecular biology and veterinary medicine. As director of the Pre-Clinical Development team, he has made significant contributions in development and validation of *in vitro* and *in vivo* models for osteoarthritis, diabetes, obesity and hepatic toxicity; optimization of *in vivo* experiments to support safety, efficacy, mechanism of actions and pharmacokinetics studies of natural products, ensuring research strategy and procedures in compliance with regulations and organization guidelines pursuant. Dr. Yimam is a board-certified Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. He received his doctorate degree in veterinary medicine from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. He further broadened his knowledge in the field of drug discovery by studying pharmaceuticals and acquired his master's degree at the University of Washington, where he focused on identifying and characterizing primate P-gp and illustrating target specific drug delivery in syngeneic experimental brain tumor model.

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About Unigen

Unigen discovers, develops and manufactures proprietary natural-product active ingredients for dietary supplements, cosmetic and personal care products, prescription medical food and botanical drug products. The Company discovers its ingredients through its high throughput screening PhytoLogix™ approach applied to a proprietary well-annotated collection of botanicals and a legacy mining approach applied to botanicals having known medicinal benefits. Mechanism of action, safety and efficacy are documented with extensive preclinical *in vitro* and *in vivo* testing and by human clinical studies. Unigen protects its discoveries with issued patents and patent filings in all major territories and manufactures its products to GMP standards. Unigen commercializes its proprietary ingredients through licensing and ingredient supply alliances with commercial partners engaged in the manufacture, distribution and marketing of end-products in each of Unigen's target markets. www.Unigen.net